

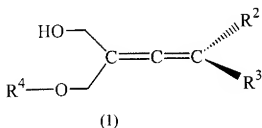
Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims:

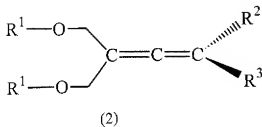
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an optically active allene represented by formula (1):



wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-20} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-20} aryl group, and R^4 represents an acyl group, which comprises reacting an allene derivative represented by formula (2):



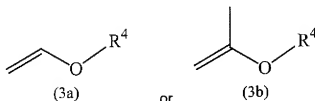
wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom and R^2 and R^3 have the same meaning as defined above, with an acylating agent having an acyl group represented by R^4 , in the presence of an enzyme-catalyst a lipase enzyme which is at least one member selected from the group

consisting of *Candida antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* lipase, *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase, *Porcine liver esterase* and *Candida rugosa* lipase.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the ~~enzyme-catalyst lipase enzyme~~ is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *Candida antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* lipase and ~~[[,]] *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase, porcine pancreatic lipase, porcine liver esterase and *Candida rugosa* lipase.~~

4. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein the acylating agent is a compound represented by:



wherein R^4 represents an acyl group.

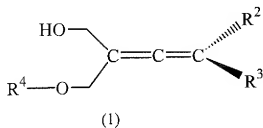
5. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-20} alkylcarbonyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-20} arylcarbonyl group.

6. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-10} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-10} aryl group.

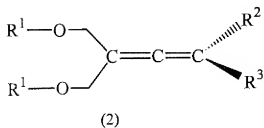
7. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-8} aryl group.

8. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is an acetyl group, a butyryl group or a benzoyl group.

9. (Previously Presented/Currently Amended) A process for producing an optically active allene represented by formula (1):



wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-20} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-20} aryl group, and R^4 represents an acyl group, which comprises reacting an allene derivative represented by formula (2):



wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted acyl group and R^2 and R^3 have the same meaning as defined above, with an acylating agent having an acyl group represented by R^4 when both R^1 's are each a hydrogen atom or with water when both R^1 's are each an acyl group represented by R^4 , in the presence of a lipase enzyme which is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *Candida antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*

lipase, *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase, ~~Porcine pancreatic lipase~~ Porcine liver esterase and *Candida rugosa* lipase.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented/Currently Amended) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 9, wherein the lipase enzyme is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *Candida antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* lipase and *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase.

12. (Previously Presented/Currently Amended) The process for producing an optically active allene according to any one of claims 9 to or 11, wherein R⁴ is an acetyl group, a butyryl group or a benzoyl group.